

**DOWNTOWN INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**
November 30, 2010
MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS

Present: **Larry Rauch, Michael Tansey, and Paul Vert.**

Absent: **Ernie Doizaki, Richard Gardner, Don Kanner, Howard Klein, Matt Klein, Richard Meruelo, Alex Palermo, Bill Shinbane and Mark Shinbane.**

STAFF: **Herlinda Chico, Raquel King, Estela Lopez, Celina Mancia and George Peterman.**

CONSULTANTS: **Ken Coelho, Don Steier, and Kim Sudhalter.**

GUESTS: **LAPD Captain Todd Chamberlain, Dr. George Kelling, Rudy Martinez, candidate for CD14, and LAPD Senior Lead Officer Jack Richter.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vert called the meeting to order with a quorum at 11:40am.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Lopez thanked Captain Chamberlain for bringing Dr. George Kelling to the CCEA Board meeting.

Dr. Kelling informed the Board that he was in town because Chief Beck asked him to review what's going on with two Safer Cities Initiative (SCI) project areas: skid row and MacArthur Park.

Captain Chamberlain reported that there is a 4.3% reduction in crime in Central, but violent arrests have increased. Captain Chamberlain credited the partnership with the BIDs for enabling the police department to be effective in reducing crime.

Lopez stated that the number of homeless individuals has increased; the consistent number is now over 1,100. Lopez stated that CCEA hired a deputy director of operations to oversee the mid-day shift that was just implemented in DID due to increased loitering and encampments going up at 5pm despite the Jones decision. Since the inception of the mid-day shift there have been positive changes in DID.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Rauch made a motion to approve the September 28, 2010 minutes, and Tansey seconded. The Board unanimously approved.

IV. CANDIDATE FOR COUNCIL DISTRICT 14

Lopez introduced Rudy Martinez, candidate for Council District 14. Martinez informed the Board that he was a commissioner under Mayor Hahn, he owns two restaurants, and he has a television show called Flip This House where he buys dilapidated houses, renovates and sell them. Martinez expressed that there is a need for change and improvement in CD14, and he is the candidate that can make that happen. Martinez then took Q & A from the board members. Martinez thanked the Board and CCEA for the opportunity to attend the meeting to introduce himself.

V. FINANCIALS

Coelho reported that during the month of October the BID collected \$\$9,900 in assessment revenue and \$1,600 in penalties and interest. The delinquency amount is at \$95,000; \$92,000 was budgeted. Expenses are in line with the budget. There was a timing difference with the maintenance contract. Ending cash \$396,598.

Coelho reported that projected year-end cash is approx. \$20,000 plus \$50,000 reserve. Coelho stated that he requested for a line of credit, which is reflective mostly of the needs in the Arts District, but some may be needed in DID to cover January operating expenses.

2011 Budget:

Coelho reported that all the line items were allocated precisely, and in 2010 the Board agreed on a 2% increase for 2011.

Rauch made a motion to approve and adopt the 2011 budget, and Tansy seconded. The Board unanimously approved.

VI. RE-NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

The Board unanimously approved the re-nomination of Vert, Rauch, and Shinbane to serve as DID officers for 2011/2012.

VII. OPERATIONS

Mancia reported that in September there were a total of 1,383 incidents and 210 encampments in DID.

Keyser reported that the mid-day shift started 10 weeks ago, and since then illegal encampments have been reduced by 75%. Illegal encampments are encampments that are set up prior to the 9pm designated time, per the Jones decision. Keyser informed the Board that there are new homeless individuals coming into the area, but there is a 10% reduction in those who stay overnight.

Peterman reported that according to the August LAPD crime control statistics, there were two crimes in DID and zero in Arts.

Peterman informed the Board that the number of CCEA BID trash dumpsters will be reduced by two, which will save the BID \$12,000 per year.

Mancia reported that in the month of August 3,823 bags of trash were collected, 12 instances of graffiti were reported and 165 bulky items were removed.

Peterman informed the Board that BID public safety officer Oscar Ruiz was given a commendation for stopping an assault in the alley behind 757 Towne. A female was beating a wheelchair-

bound man over the head with plywood. Officer Ruiz called LAPD and the female was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon.

LAPD Update:

Officer Richter stated that he gave a tour of Skid Row to a group of college students from Thousand Oaks, and one of the students stated that she was surprised by how content people are to live on the street. Officer Richter stated that he wants to find a way where living on the street is not a contented place.

Officer Richter informed the Board that he is working on the single sale beer issue. Martha's Kitchen contacted Richter because LAPD Vice cited them for selling single cans of beer. The establishment eventually signed an agreement stating that they will no longer sell single cans of beer.

Officer Richter reported that he is working with CCEA and CD9 regarding a press conference to introduce the homeless feeding brochure, which discourages groups from feeding people on street corners, and encourage them to partner with the missions to feed homeless individuals. Officer Richter stated that there are 17,000 meals served per day by the various missions, and the other food distributed at street corners is thrown in the streets.

CD9 and CD14 both support the initiative, and the Union Rescue Mission offered their parking lots for a more organized and sanitized environment.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Annual Planning Report:

Lopez asked the Board for its approval of the City-required Annual Planning Report, which outlines programmatic activity for 2011; changes, sources of revenue and income. The Board has to formally approve of the report prior to submitting to the City.

Rauch made a motion to approve the 2011 annual planning report, and Tansey seconded. The Board unanimously approved.

City Attorney's Office:

Lopez reported that the CA funded the position for the Halo Program/Neighborhood Prosecutor position.

Special Events Closures:

Lopez reported that the Fred Jordan Mission (5th & Towne) hosts an increasing number of events for which the City's "special event" procedures do not adequately address the impact to nearby businesses. Lopez has appeared before the Board of Public Works to communicate to the Board the issues and their economic impact on Central City East commerce. As a result, the Board proposed several amendments to its special events requirements, including a closer and more formalized working relationship with BIDs. These recommendations were submitted to the City Council for final approval. Lopez will continue to monitor and testify on this issue.

2011 Board Schedule:

The Board unanimously approved meeting quarterly instead of monthly. There will be six meetings per year; 4 quarterly meetings, 1 budget meeting, and 1 annual meeting.

IX. NEW BUSINESS- None.

X. ADJOURNMENT- The meeting of the Board was adjourned at 1:10pm.